

Camden Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2012

5:15 pm, Washington Street Conference Room

Present: Jeff Kuller, Brian Robinson, Ray Andresen (chair), Beth Ward, David Olivas, Peter Brown, Sharon Gilbert, Jim Heard (select board liaison) and Ed Libby

Ray opened the meeting at 5:15pm.

Peter motioned to accept November 9, 2011 meeting minutes as presented, Ed seconded the motion, it passed 5-0.

Snow Bowl Winter Dog Policy: Jeff discussed the history and the need for a policy.

1. Pets will not be allowed on any ski/Nordic trails or lift lines from December 1st to March 31st whether or not the Snow Bowl is open or snow or no snow (any where there is ski operations happening). One exception is the Hosmer Brook Trail which will require your pet to be on leash.

2. Other outdoor areas pets will be allowed on leash.

Non winter (April 1st through November 30th) Pets are allowed at the recreation area under the Town of Camden Dog Ordinance.

Discussion:

Andrea Conover stated that over by the toboggan chute is a beautiful area for dogs and hoped that it could still be used. Jeff Kuller responded that there will be a snow shoe trail which will be okay for pets to be on with leashes over there that will not cross the Nordic trail.

Jeff Foltz stated that the Nordic trail is uncombatability because of the grooming that will be done and the expense that goes with that, the trail was built wide enough for skiers to go quite fast (up to 40mph) and the switch backs are very dangerous for pets to share the trail with Nordic skiers.

Kala asked about pets on Hosmer Pond. Jeff Kuller stated that the pond is state property, but the access road to the pond is town owned.

Sue Flemming stated that her idea to make the area easier to manage would be to make a 1 human to 2 pet rule.

Jeff Kuller responded that the parks and recreation department cannot talk to everyone that uses the area, but this proposed compromise could help make it easier to manage it. Parks and Recreation will put up maps and signs.

Joe Ryan feels that he worked hard to make the multi-use trail possible and disagrees with the no dogs on the trail. Maybe there could be a period of time allocated for dogs to use it.

Liona Burdulis suggests that parks and recreation puts up more dog waste/no littering signs.

Joe and Jinny Ryan suggest that users help manage rules by asking users to pick up waste.

Jeff Kuller asked if anyone is interested in a dog park to get your contact info to the parks and rec department.

Peter Brown moved to accept the Snow Bowls revised winter pet rules as presented, Ed Libby 2nd the motion, all in favor 6-0-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pathways: Geoff Scott reported that Pathways is working on finding funds for the Riverwalk project in Camden and a walking route around Rockport Harbor. Geoff asked the committee to lend any expertise for fundraising, easement and land owner contacts and contracts.

RMRA Redevelopment: Jeff reported the business group fundraising breakfasts are happening. Groups of contractors, realtors, physicians, etc. will be invited for a breakfast presentation and asked to contribute to the redevelopment. The Fund a chair get a lift campaign is under way as well as friends of Sarah Montgomery to name the great room of the new lodge. February 4th is the 3rd annual Snow Ball at the Rockport Opera house.

US National Toboggan Championships®: Sharon reported that the committee is meeting weekly upto the event.

Sponsorships are equal to last year. Vendor row is full, Children activities will be Saturday 11am-2pm, Shuttle bus will run from Washington Street and the WSCR will be available for people to wait and warm up.

Snow Bowl Finances:

Jeff reported about \$20,000 short for season pass sales, Ski school, group sales and race programs are all up, but daily ticket sales are down.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Megunticook Rowing: Ry Hills gave the committee 2011 summary.

P & R Properties Tour: Ed will get a quote for a brochure for Camden's properties.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upcoming Events:

Multi use trail grand opening, Saturday, January 14th

Ski Patrol training, January 15th

Tubing hill opening Saturday 14th

Ragged Mountain Ski & Snowboard Club Family Fun Race, January 21st

David motioned to adjourn at 6:50pm, Peter 2nd all in favor.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 8th, 2012 at 5:15pm in the WSCR

Minutes recorded by Beth Ward